

A Cooperative Publication of the City of Bryan and Bryan Independent School District


Bryan Neighborhood Program Selected for National Spotlight Presentation

The City of Bryan’s Neighborhood Association Partnership Program (NAPP) was recently selected by The Innovation Groups (IG) for a spotlight presentation at its national conference in June in Reno, Nevada. The 2004 Transforming Local Government conference is expected to draw representatives of 500 to 750 cities and counties nationwide.

The City of Bryan was selected along with the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, to present the case study session Our Neighborhood, Our Way: From Apathy and Discontent to Activism and Commitment. It will explore how two cities, one large and one small, used similar initiatives to transform the neighborhoods in their communities from unmoving apathy to beacons of productive activism.

“The selection process was actually rather rigorous,” said Bryan Neighborhood/Youth Services Manager Ronnie Jackson, who explained the process included a project summary, responding to six specific questions provided by IG to determine if the presentation meets the learning principles of the conference, and finally a live interview via conference call.

“I think the two main factors contributing to Bryan’s selection were that the program started in mid-year without any additional funding added to the city’s budget, and that it achieved a rapid endorsement of the Bryan citizens through their active participation.”



Sharing the presentation with the City of Las Vegas is an added bonus, according to Jackson. That city may be famous for being one of the premier entertainment destinations in the world, but its Neighborhood Services Department has an impressive resume of innovative award-winning programs. Some of the neighborhood

services offered by Las Vegas were early models for Bryan’s NAPP, such as allowing neighbors to select their boundaries and prioritize their own goals.

Dixie Gillman, national events planner for Innovation Groups was recently quoted in an article from the Bryan/College Station Eagle indicating that “Bryan’s program is important because it can present a counterpoint to Las Vegas’ big-budget program.”

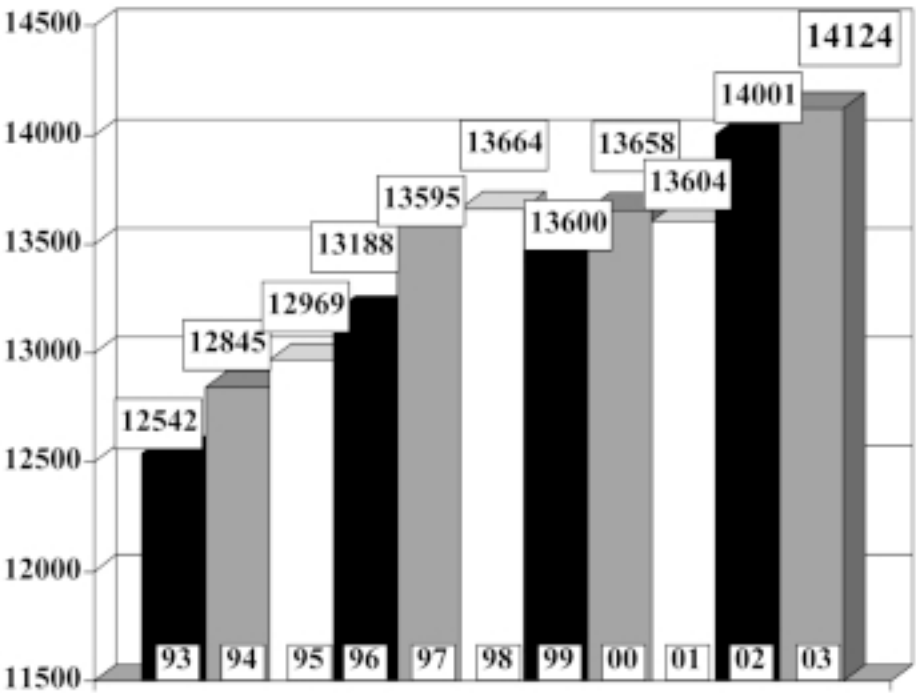
“It is important to have them as a complement to a large city like Las Vegas, because a lot of our attendees are not from large jurisdictions and need to hear practical solutions on a smaller-city basis,” she said.

The City of Bryan currently has 17 registered neighborhood associations in its first 20 months of operation and there are at least three to four more in various stages of organizing. Five registered associations have taken advantage of the city’s matching-grant program in which registered neighborhood associations can apply for up to \$5,000 a year for improvement projects.

Bryan Growth Spurs BISD Facility Discussion

Bryan ISD and the Bryan community continue to be a popular destination for families in search of a new home and a quality education. The Nov. 7, 2003 enrollment count showed 14,124 students enrolled in Bryan ISD. The Nov. 6, 2002 showed a count of 13,951, making a net gain of 173 students in Bryan ISD. Even more impressive is the growth over the past two years. Bryan ISD grew by 514 students from November 2001 to November 2003. This growth is enough to fill another elementary school. As an example both Bonham and Mitchell elementaries are serving 509 students. Mitchell alone has seen its enrollment increase by 50 students in the past year.

In conjunction with the rapid growth, Bryan ISD is entering Phase III of its facilities planning study. A committee made of community members and Bryan ISD staff has begun meeting with the firm of BLGY Architects of Austin, which the Bryan ISD trustees hired as a consultant for Facility Assessment and Bond Referendum planning.



The Committee will be evaluating the facilities at five Bryan ISD campuses — Bonham, Milam, Carver, Kemp and Crockett. Those campuses were identified by the Bryan ISD Facilities Innovative Research Team as needing the most immediate attention due to age, population and overall adequacy. The Committee is expected to make a report to the Trustees in early 2004. Among the issues the committee will consider are a second high school and reconfiguration of campuses to a K-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-12 alignment. Members of the committee are: Jason Bienski, Jim Bradford, Glen Brewer, Dennis Goehring, Randy Haynes, Maritza Hoffman, Scot Lengren, Pawan Mahimtura, Julie Porter, Kean Register, Kathy Waller, Mike Balog, Rick Littleton, Mike Flores, Amina Alikhan, Barbara Nance, Joseph Nance, Elise Miller, Douglas Wunneburger, Rick Pilger, Jacque Flagg, Becky Simmons, Doris Light, Ralph R. Davila, Chris Galindo, W. R. (Bill) Cullen, Alice Richter, Robert Lowry, Robert Tatum, Dana Muller, Julia K. Perry, Randy Eglit, Colleen Netterville, Debbie Richards and Colleen Holmes,



Growth and Change in 2004

As our calendars change from 2003 to 2004, Bryan ISD continues to ask what changes they want to see for their community's students. The District continues to gather input regarding the direction it will go

over the next 5 to 7 years, whether it be in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, Technology, Community Involvement, Safe and Orderly Environment Funding. And of course the one that gets the headlines — facilities.

Bryan ISD continues to add students, with approximately 500 more students attending our campuses than there were only two years ago. That kind of growth goes to show that our community offers what people are looking for when it comes to putting down roots and raising a family.

The Phase III Facilities Planning Committee is reviewing options to suggest to the Bryan ISD Board of Trustees. The ideas that came out of the first two phases of strategic planning for facilities are challenging, but very exciting. One suggestion is a second high school. Another option under discussion is a reconfiguring of grade groupings to a K through 4th grade, 5th and 6th grades, 7th and 8th grades and 9-12 high schools. It's also possible that new campuses will be needed to deal with growth.

Included in this publication is a list of important phone numbers throughout the District. We realize whenever a business or government changes phone numbers there are some inconveniences. But the switchover to a new, very improved phone system gives every Bryan ISD teacher access to voice mail. The new system will also save public funds, paying for itself in no more than 7 years.

Again, thank you for your support of Bryan ISD.

Herman Smith
Superintendent of Bryan Schools

Mission Statement

The Mission of Bryan ISD, the community's center of learning, is to educate our youth to achieve their potential by providing a safe and challenging environment where standards are high and learning is the priority.



A Great Time to be in Bryan

The final touches are being put on an exciting year for the City of Bryan. And it looks like things are shaping up to be equally exciting in 2004.

Highlights and updates

Major accomplishments this year included the completion of Phase One of the Downtown Master Plan. If you haven't seen the lights and landscaping in downtown Bryan please come and visit. It is a true transformation.

The golf course at Traditions was completed and will be open for play in early June. Marketing has started and lot sales are underway. The development is beautiful and with the completion of the Texas A&M University Golf Learning Center, it is inhabited!

The Miramont development is moving forward with the completion of its golf course and commencement of lot sales. Housing starts are already at a good pace. The completion of these two very professional courses should bring many visitors to our community in the future.

We have devoted significant attention to water and sewer line repair and replacement and the maintenance of our streets that so badly needed repair. We will continue our aggressive approach to overlaying and seal-coating our streets for the foreseeable future.

We received wonderful Christmas presents in December with the announcements of two multi-screen movie theater developments. One suggests that a hotel and restaurants will surround the theater, while the other indicates restaurants and other retail will be present. Both are eyeing properties near the intersection of FM-158 and Earl Rudder Freeway. Look for groundbreakings in some form or fashion to occur in the spring.

Final thoughts

The Bryan City Council remains committed to the development, aesthetics and quality of life in the community it leads. The council will meet soon to review its six strategic initiatives and a long-range debt plan. Our hope is to continue the fiscal and physical growth, development and prosperity in 2004.

Best wishes,

Mary Kay Moore
Bryan City Manager

Update: Tejas Center

Bryan’s contributions to helping Manor East Mall transform into The Tejas Center are right on schedule.

The city’s partnership with this important redevelopment includes moving the Burton Creek Channel and modifying traffic signals and turn lanes. The new channel is complete and work will begin soon with the pavement and signal modifications.

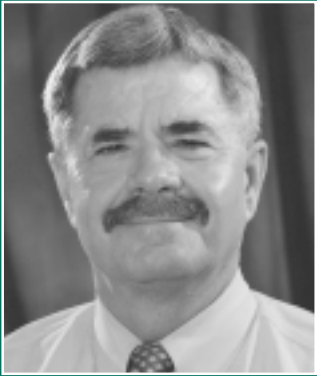
The city also seized the opportunity to install a new sewer trunk line across The Tejas Center parking lot before renovations to the shopping center are complete. This installation project is currently underway.

Work continues to remove a large portion of the existing mall to make way for a 90,000-plus square foot H-E-B supermarket, as well as an expanded Hastings.



Wail to the Chief

Bryan Police Chief implements citizen’s pipeline



Mike Strope

Bryan Police Chief Mike Strope has introduced the Citizen’s Pipeline: A direct hotline to his office.

The hotline – (979) 209-5677 – allows citizens to relay compliments, ask questions and/or lodge complaints to a recorded phone line 24/7. The Citizen’s Pipeline provides citizens an easy way to communicate their praise, as well as their concerns, directly to the chief of police. All incoming callers will be prompted to leave a message which will be reviewed and

appropriately processed under the direction of the chief. Callers are encouraged to leave their name and phone numbers, but that is not required.

“The Citizen’s Pipeline provides a simple process for citizens to tell me what they are thinking,” Strope said. “I’ve received calls about personal concerns over things the department is doing, not doing, or planning to do. I also hope to hear from citizens who think we’re doing a good job in a particular area, as well as from those that think we could or should be doing better.”

Strope adds that, to be effective, it’s essential that he receives community input. The hotline, he says, serves as one of a variety of ways the Bryan Police Department assesses its effectiveness in the community.

According to the chief, community concerns will be treated as valuable input to be used in solving community problems.

“I hope citizens will also use the pipeline to commend officers who they feel have done a good job or gone beyond the call of duty,” he said. “We welcome all input — good and not-so-good.”

**To leave a comment
for Police Chief
Mike Strope, call the
Citizen’s Pipeline at
(979) 209-5677.**

LIVING & LEARNING



www.bryantx.gov
979-209-5000

Jay Socol
Public Information Officer



www.bryanisd.org
979-209-1000

Phillip Sulak
Director of Communications

Welcome Home, Thor!



Bryan ISD employees delicately maneuvered a bronze statue of the high school Viking mascot back into place Thursday morning.

The statue is a gift to the school from the graduating class of 2001. It was dedicated and installed in June 2002, and stolen from Bryan High in January 2003.

After nine months, of recovery, repair and travel, “Thor” claims his rightful place once again at the top of the steps in front of Bryan High.

In reinstalling the statue, and with the help of BHS alumni Joe Foster, owner of Titan Security Services, the district has increased and improved security precautions to protect the artwork from future vandalism.

City/School Elections Bumped to Mid-May

In 2004 only, the City of Bryan/Bryan ISD elections will be held on the third Saturday in May: May 15. In 2005, city/school elections will revert to the normal schedule of the first Saturday in May.

Early voting for the May 15 election runs April 28-May 11 in the lobby of the Bryan Municipal Building, 300 South Texas Avenue. Under state law, all voters must bring either a voter registration certificate or an acceptable form of identification to cast a ballot.

Voters will again be using the new eSlate direct recording electronic voting system.

For more information, contact Bryan City Secretary Mary Lynne Stratta at (979) 209-5002.



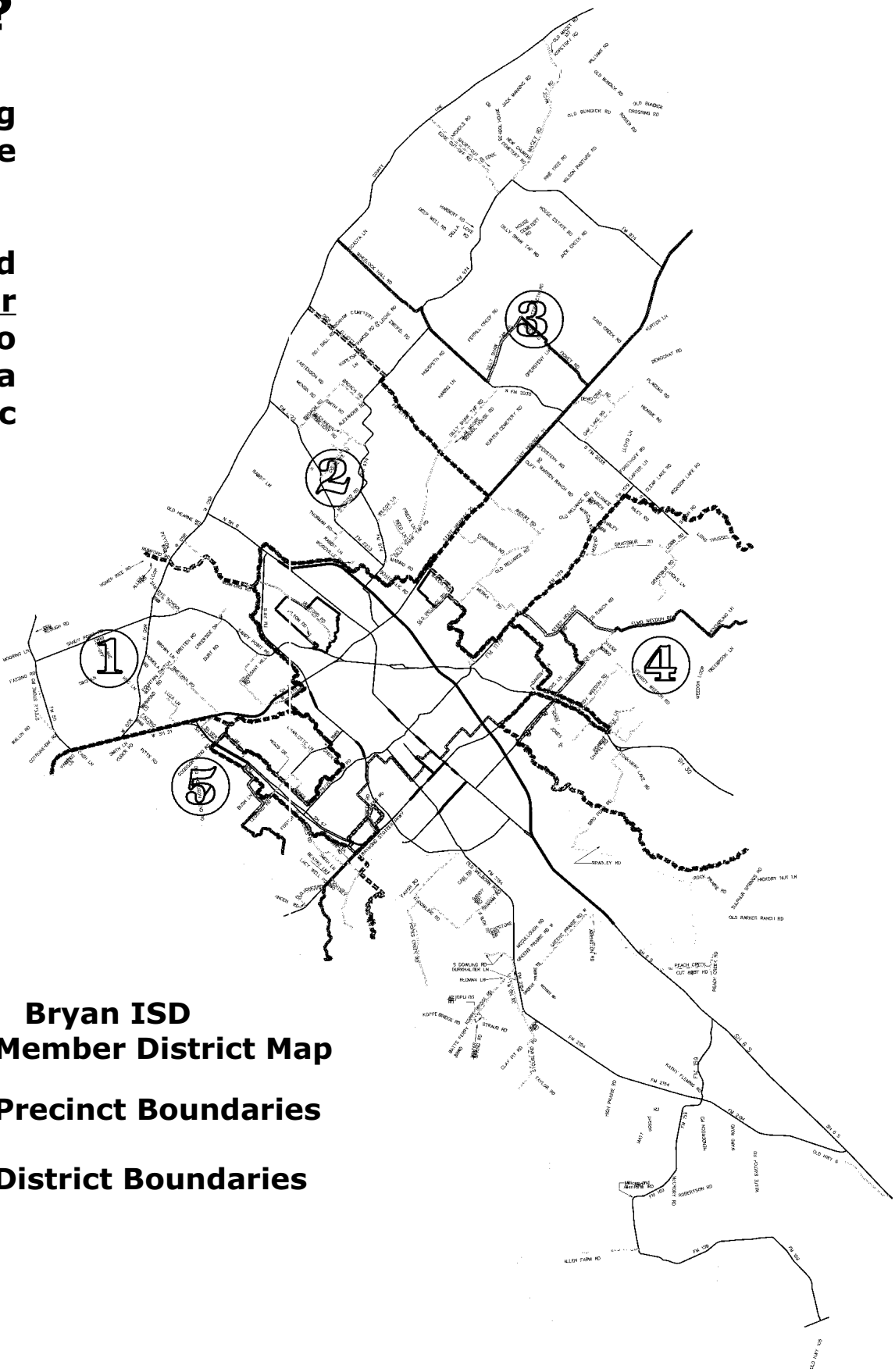
City of Bryan
Single Member District Map

WHERE DO I GO?

Need to know what voting precinct you live in? Not sure where to cast your ballot?

Visit www.bryantx.gov and click Maps. Then select Voter Precincts Map Service to locate your information via Bryan's new Geographic Information System (GIS).

Still have questions?
Call us at
(979) 209-5002.



Bryan ISD
Single Member District Map

— Precinct Boundaries

- - - District Boundaries

Bryan ISD's New Phone Numbers

Bryan ISD now utilizes new phone numbers throughout the District. The change in numbers is necessary as the District converts to a new phone system that will run over the District's wide area network. The change will allow the District to save money, reducing the per line cost, and to better utilize Bryan ISD's technology infrastructure.

Can I have your number?

Travis Education Support Center			
Main Number	209-1000	Lamar Tech Academy	209-2700
Superintendent's Office	209-1002	SOS	209-2760
Business Services	209-1005	GRAD	209-2780
Payroll	209-1018	SFA	209-6700
Purchasing	209-1048	Jane Long	209-6500
Operations & Maintenance	209-1059	Sam Rayburn	209-6600
Communications	209-1020	Bonham Elementary	209-1200
Education Foundation	209-1057	Bowen Elementary	209-1300
Human Resources	209-1084	Branch Elementary	209-2900
Employee Benefits	209-1092	Carver	209-3700
SubFinder	209-1100	Crockett Elementary	209-2960
Job Line	209-1083	Fannin Elementary	209-3800
		Henderson Elementary	209-1560
		Sam Houston Elementary	209-1360
Instruction Department		Johnson Elementary	209-1460
SFA Cluster	209-1071	Jones Elementary	209-3900
Jane Long Cluster	209-1075	Kemp Elementary	209-3760
Sam Rayburn Cluster	209-1070	Milam Elementary	209-3960
Special Programs	209-1065	Mitchell Elementary	209-1400
Bilingual/ESL	209-1024	Navarro Elementary	209-1260
Migrant		Neal Elementary	209-3860
(CAPs Building)	209-7017	Sul Ross Elementary	209-1500
Deaf Education		Other Buildings and Programs	
(CAPs Building)	209-7010	Adult Learning Center	775-9294
Federal Programs	209-1068	Project Unity	775-9577
Special Education	209-1036	Champions (CAPs Building)	209-7007
		Auxiliary Services Center	209-7100
Campuses		Auxiliary Human Resources	209-7081
Bryan High School	209-2400	Child Nutrition	209-7052
	or 209-2500	Library Processing Center	209-7070
Counseling Center	209-2628	Warehouse	209-7077
Bryan High Field House	209-7990	Copy Center	209-7090
Ticket Booth	209-2566	Custodial Services	209-7099
Hammond Oliver		VIPS/Family Involvement	
HS for HS	209-2800	(CAPs Building)	209-7000
Options for Young Parents	209-2853	Grounds	209-1150
Options Child Care Center	209-2807	Technology Support Center	209-1170
ACE	209-2860	Transportation	209-7130

BISD Education Foundation Awards Teacher Grants for Innovative Teaching

The Bryan ISD Education Foundation, as well as the businesses and individuals who support it, believes that innovative and creative approaches to teaching can benefit our students.

To this end, the Foundation developed the Grants-To-Teachers Program .This program, with its emphasis on INNOVATIVE PROJECTS and CREATIVE TEACHING APPROACHES, provides funding, not otherwise available, for projects that have a potential to enhance the learning process.

The Foundation recently awarded \$19,337.80 to some of BISD's innovative and creative teachers. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded more than \$100,000 in grants to deserving teachers bringing new and exciting methods of learning to our children.

This year's recipients and their projects are:

Jennifer Skrivanek, Bowen Elementary
"Family Fun with Freddie and Freida"

Diana Munoz, Linda Scroggs, Henderson Elementary
"Literacy Links/Enlace de Lectura"

Julie Tuggle, Sally Kirby, Linda Asberry, Neal Elementary
"Regal Eagle Publishing Company"

Pat Beasley, Mitchell Elementary
"Image-making Within the Writing Process"

Ginger Freeze, Branch Elementary
"Calculate for Success"

Bridget Cooper, Kemp Elementary
"Mobile Education Productions-Starlab Planetarium"

Paula McCann , Diana Rokes , Mitchell Elementary
"Knowledge in a Drawstring Bag-(KIDS Bags)

Donna Dixon, Sam Houston Elementary
"Take Two for TAKS"

Dana Muller, Branch Elementary
"Real Easy, Real Books"

Tracy Spies, Johnson Elementary
"Increasing Academic Success of Limited English Proficient Students Through Parent Involvement"

Lindsay Harris, Jane Long Middle School
"Camp Lobo"

Christina Richardson, Bryan High School
"Math and English Camp"

Erin Wright, Bernadette Graff, Hammond-Oliver High School for Human Sciences
"Senior-to-Senior: Communications in Action"

Kurt Galey, Ted Vaughan, Bryan High School
"Design & Manufacturing Education"

For more information on the BISD Education Foundation or on the Grants-To-Teachers Program, please call Sandra Davis, Executive Director 209-1057.

All-State Musicians Shine for Bryan

Morgan Jenks , a senior tuba player, was selected for the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State Band at Area auditions Jan. 10 in Brenham.

This is Morgan's third year to make the All-State group, which will perform at the TMEA Convention in February.

Two other BHS Band members were first alternate to All-State. Jared Ensign, a senior tuba player, and Rebecca Ingram a junior flute player missed the All-State Band by one chair.

A total of 12 BHS Band members auditioned at Area.

Bryan High's Andrew Orozco and Brittany Green have earned places on two All-State choirs based on their performances at area auditions Jan. 10 in The Woodlands.

Andrew made the Texas All-State Mixed Choir and Brittany earned a place in the Texas All-State Treble Choir.

Kelly Pechal was 1st alternate to the All-State Choir.

Main Street Renovations Near Completion



Main Event: City, Downtown and Chamber of Commerce Officials ceremonially reopen South Main Street.

Workers for Young Construction might as well have been wearing red suits and white beards.

By fulfilling the city’s wish list, the majority of Main Street reconstruction, cleanup and landscaping was completed in time for the holidays; truly the greatest gift there could have been for those who live, work, shop and dine in Historic Downtown.

This \$3.2 million infrastructure rehabilitation project began in February and Young Construction has worked hard to keep the project relatively on schedule due to significant rain delays. Work on landscaping and streetscaping (lighting, benches, etc.) is expected to continue through the winter.

The final construction phase of this project has begun with the reconstruction of the William Joel Bryan Parkway/Main Street intersection and installation of new traffic signals. Anticipated completion of the entire project should occur in March.

Visitors to Historic Downtown are now experiencing a more beautiful and pedestrian-friendly Main Street that features period lighting, decorative medians, landscaping and streetscaping, enhanced parking and a host of historic buildings in various stages of renovation.

For more information about Historic Downtown, contact John Hendry of the Downtown Bryan Economic Development Association at 822-2000, extension 303.

Bryan Leadership Academy Enters Fourth Year

Have you ever wondered how potholes are repaired or how the fire department is able to respond so quickly to emergencies? How does the City of Bryan prepare its budget or decide where a park should be located?

Answers to questions like these will be found at the fourth annual Bryan Leadership Academy, a free, eight-week course that provides an inside look at the operations of the City of Bryan. Participants will hear presentations from representatives of more than 20 city departments.

The Bryan Leadership Academy will meet Monday evenings March 22-May 17. There will not be a meeting on Monday, April 12.

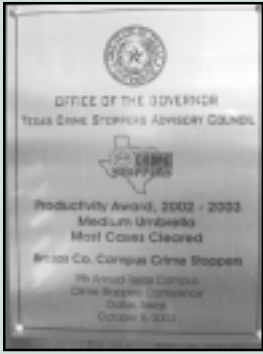
“The goal of the academy is to provide the necessary tools that enable our citizens to take an active, informed role in shaping the future of their community,” said Bryan City Manager Mary Kaye Moore. “We hope that translates into future participation on our boards, commissions and even elected office.”

How to register:

Applications for the Bryan Leadership Academy may be downloaded from the City of Bryan web site, www.bryantx.gov. They are also available in the lobby of the Bryan Municipal Office Building, 300 South Texas Avenue, or by calling the Office of the City Manager at (979) 209-5100.

Can’t make it this year? Make plans to be part of the 2005 Bryan Leadership Academy!

SFA CrimeStoppers Tops in State



Stephen F. Austin Middle School’s CrimeStoppers received three statewide awards at the 9th Annual Texas Crime Stoppers Conference, Oct. 5-7, in Dallas. The students won the Productivity Award, 2002-2003, for small individual school with the most cases cleared.

They also won the Productivity Award, 2002-2003 for most cases cleared in Brazos County.

And to top it off, SFA CrimeStoppers coordinator Kittrie Glen was named the Coordinator of the Year for 2002-2003.

Congratulations to Kittrie and all the Broncos that help take a bite out of crime.

South College Avenue: The Smoothest Ride in Town

In terms of drivability, South College Avenue may have vaulted from worst to first in only a matter of weeks.

The asphalt overlay and striping of one of the city’s main north-south corridors is complete, with a configuration of one lane each way with a center turn lane and bike lanes along the outside. This configuration helps to keep traffic closer to the center of the road while runoff from heavy rains moves along the curbs.

The final plans are for South College to be widened to a four-lane street with extra turn lanes at the signalized intersections. Only the first phase of the eventual widening has been budgeted, but will include the portion of South College from 31st Street to Homestead Street plus improvements at the Groesbeck Street railroad crossing. Construction of this widening project is waiting on right-of-way acquisition from Union Pacific Railroad.

Bryan ISD Trustees Select Calendar for 2004-2005

Bryan ISD Trustees have approved the calendar for the 2004-2005 school year. Some highlights of the calendar are:

- First Day of School — Tuesday, Aug. 17
- First Semester Ends — Dec. 17
- Spring Break — March 14 -18
- Weather Make Up Days — March 25 and 28
- Staff Development/Student Holidays — Aug. 10 - 16; Oct. 11, Jan. 3, Feb. 14, , May 2 and May 27,
- Last Day of School - May 26

For a full copy of the Bryan ISD 2004-2005 calendar, visit www.bryanisd.org.

Update: Traditions Golf & Country Club

Course ready for play June 1



“Wow!” is the most common reaction from people visiting the Traditions Golf Course on Bryan’s west side.

The topography, the challenging layout, the way the sculpted fairways, greens and sand traps blend with the natural landscape – all provoke the same response: Wow!

According to Traditions Project Manager Dr. John Blackburn, progress on the golf

course continues to be made every day. The Jack Nicklaus/Jack Nicklaus, Jr.-designed course is nearly completed with all grassing in place.

Final work on fairway and greenside sand traps is also taking place, and the course is scheduled to be open to all Traditions Club members around June 1.

The Texas A&M University men’s and women’s golf teams recently moved into the new Golf Learning Center at Traditions, which includes offices for the head coaches and their assistants, locker rooms, a lounge/study area, covered hitting areas and teaching rooms with computer swing analysis equipment. Just outside the learning center are practice putting/chipping greens featuring different grasses and a driving range. A beautiful Par-4 practice hole is also ready for play.

The Melrose Company is now focusing much of its efforts on the marketing and sales of residential parcels. The South Carolina-based firm has already constructed Visitor Information Center at the entrance to the Traditions property, just off West Villa Maria Road, to provide information about golf and club membership opportunities at the Traditions Club.

For more information, contact Melinda Scott at (979) 821-2582 or at mscott@traditionsclub.com.

Government Class Comes to Life at Bryan High

A unique partnership between the City of Bryan and Bryan High School recently allowed a number of city staffers to serve as guest lecturers on the topic of local government.

Opening presentations were made by City Manager Mary Kaye Moore, City Attorney Michael Cosentino and Community Librarian Clara Mounce.

The program was originally conceived by Bryan High School government teachers led by BHS’s Janice Williamson and by Ronnie Jackson, the City of Bryan’s Neighborhood/Youth Services Manager.

“The government classes at Bryan High are semester courses, as the students typically take economics during the alternate semester,” said Williamson. “This leaves government teachers with a limited amount of time to cover national and state government issues and we barely skim the surface of local government. Now, through the contributions of the city staff, our students are not only receiving some valuable information about how our local government operates, but they are hearing it first hand from the people responsible for making it work.”

“This is a win-win partnership,” Jackson added. “This is an opportunity for the staff to help educate the students on the nuances of municipal government, but to also help influence their future civic engagement.”

During their second session, led by City Secretary Mary Lynne Stratta, all 275 students were able to practice voting on the new E-slate voting system and sign up for their voter registration cards. Many students also filled out forms to apply to serve on city-sponsored volunteer boards and commissions.

“The city staff really embraced this idea when it was first mentioned and they have been remarkably enthusiastic about the series,” said Jackson. “Much of the program’s content and presentation is similar to the Bryan Leadership Academy, but the commitment of time and support on the part of the staff is simply phenomenal.”

City and school officials indicate they will seek future partnerships in Bryan classrooms.

Bryan ISD Students Fill All-Region Middle School Choir

Congratulations to the Texas Music Educators Association Region 8 all region choir members from Bryan’s Stephen F. Austin, Sam Rayburn and Jane Long Middle Schools.

The All-Region Middle School Choir will perform Jan. 31, at 5 p.m. in Killeen’s Shoemaker High School.

Bryan ISD’s Middle School Choir Directors are Janeth Ellis and Patsy Cargill at SFA,

Charlotte Angel at Long and Natalie Stackhouse at Rayburn.

Eighth-grade students earning all region were SFA’s Lara Scamardo , 1st Soprano, DeeAnn Mason - 2nd Soprano, Samantha Oehme – Alto, Lindsey O’Neal - 2nd Soprano (1st alternate), Ryan Allmon - 2nd Tenor, Garrison Kickham - 2nd Tenor, Andrew Hyde - 2nd Tenor, Brady Atkins – Bass, Garrett Snowden – Bass and Tony Carranze - Bass (1st alternate); Rayburn’s Sean

Faulkner - 1st Tenor, Jon Karp - Bass, Priscilla Lozano - 2nd Soprano, Will Scanlin - Bass, Katrina Stephenson - 1st Soprano and Marcus Turner - Bass; and Long’s Joshua Jackson - 2nd Tenor.

Seventh-grade students earning all region were SFA’s Krista Gensky - 2nd soprano, Ethan Ballard - 1st Tenor, Ben Bracher - 1st Tenor; and Rayburn’s Josh Hyde - 2nd Tenor, Scott Lovett - 1st Tenor, Laquon Robinson - 2nd Tenor and David Williams - 2nd Tenor.



Johnson Elemntary: Joan Moore (Librarian), Gaye Kay (4th), Carol Happ (Principal), Bill Mosley (Kindergarten), Debbie Barton (3rd)

Johnson Brings Statewide Recognition to Bryan ISD

The Texas Business & Education Coalition (TBEC) and Just for the Kids (JFTK) named Bryan ISD’s Johnson Elementary to their 2003 Honor Roll. Only 69 schools in Texas shared in this honor.

TBEC and JFTK recognize consistent performance from schools rated exemplary for three years, that have excellent performance in each grade, in each subject and that rate in the top quartile for their peer group.

Johnson principal Carol Happ attended the Honor Roll School seminar, reception and dinner Nov. 20 in Austin. During the seminar, Mrs. Happ shared her success story with other principals.

In addition to being named to this Honor Roll, Johnson is one of Bryan’s two Blue Ribbon National Schools of Merit and was named as a Top 10 school by Texas Monthly.

For more information on TBEC and JFTK, go to www.tbec.org and www.just4kids.org.

Bryan High Viking Band to march on Washington, D.C.

The Bryan High School Viking Band has been chosen to be a representative of the State of Texas at a major national music festival to be held in Washington, D.C. in the spring of 2004. The Festival will celebrate America's heritage through music. The Viking Band was chosen based on recommendations of state music officials and past achievements and current superior ratings.

The Viking Band, under the direction of Rob Towell, will be in the nation's capital May 30 - June 2. The group will take part in the 2004 National Festival of States World War II Memorial Parade. The event is recognized by the World War II Memorial Dedication Committee and the American Battle Monuments Commission.



Above: The Bryan High Viking Drumline. The band plans to play a musical salute to all branches of the military and a special medley of Texas Songs for the event.

The band will take part in a program of performances, sight-seeing and other cultural events while in Washington, D.C. Performance venues include the U.S. Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, the Navy Memorial, Mount Vernon, the Old Post Office Pavilion, the U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's Home.

The Viking Band, led by Towell, with assistance from Mike Hardy and Zane Taylor, has won the UIL Sweepstakes Trophy in each of the last six years. The band has advanced to the UIL Area D Marching Contest and has represented the Texas Music Educators Association Region 8 in the Honor Band Competition three times in both events.

Kellogg's Calls Fannin HOSTS GRRRRRRREAT!

The Kellogg's Corporate Citizenship Fund has awarded a grant for \$5,000 to Fannin Elementary to support the Help One Student to Succeed (HOSTS) program. Fannin will use the funds to start a HOSTS English Language Development program, aimed at students who are not native English speakers.

Kellogg's has been involved with HOSTS schools and students for more than 10 years, both financially and by providing mentors. The company has helped establish the program in communities where it has operations and hundreds of employees have served in classrooms as mentors

Trustees Name Vargas to BISD Board



Mr. Vargas

Bryan ISD Trustees Monday night appointed P.J. Vargas Jr. to the Single Member District 2 seat on the board. Vargas will replace Tommy Ramirez Jr. who resigned from the board when he accepted a position in another community.

Vargas has lived in Bryan since 1990. He has been active in the Navarro PTO, serving as president from 1998-2000. He is currently a vice president of the Navarro PTO. He has been on the Navarro Campus Improvement Committee since 1997. He has three children — a daughter in 7th grade at Sam Rayburn, a daughter in kindergarten at Navarro and a son, 1.

Seven at BHS Honored by National Merit Corp.

Robert McArthur has been named as a National Merit Semi-Finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Six other Bryan High School seniors have been named commended scholars.

McArthur is one of only about 16,000 students in the United States to earn this honor. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an

academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the PSAT/NMSQT.

Bryan's Commended Students are Allison Martin, David King, Morgan Jenks, Helen Hubley, Jennifer Gilmore and Chateau Morgan. These students placed in the top 5

percent of the more than 1 million students taking the 2002 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Congratulations to the students, parents and all their teachers, both at Bryan High and from their middle school and elementary experiences.

Hundreds Choose to Get Connected

In less than a year, the Get Connected e-mail listserv has shown itself to be one of the City of Bryan's most valuable and effective communication tools.

Started as a result of a citizen's request, the listserv is closing in on its 400th subscriber.

Whether messages contain emergency information or details of new programs and fun events, Get Connected subscribers are the first to know.

Bryan school trustees have recognized the listserv's quick success and now use Get Connected to disseminate school district information.

Tell a friend about Get Connected. Signing up is easy – just go to www.bryantx.gov and click the Get Connected link. You can unsubscribe at any time, and your e-mail address is never sold to an outside party.

Don't get spam. *Get Connected at www.bryantx.gov.*

